

## WEEKLY



## VISITOR,

OR,

## LADIES' MISCELLANY.

"TO WAKE THE SOUL BY TENDER STROKES OF ART,  
"TO RAISE THE GENIUS AND TO MEND THE HEART."

VOL. II.]

SATURDAY, February 18, 1804.

[No. 72]

THE

## VILLAGE GOSSIP,

*Or, Memoirs of a Country Lady.*

IN A SERIES OF NUMBERS.

*(Continued from page 146.)*

MARIA appeared highly delighted by this decision, and thanked me a thousand times; and I now found all the former reserve and abstractedness which I had observed in Leonard had been foolishly construed by Maria into proofs of regard—so ready is the female heart to erect its own little palace of delight, and fill it with imaginary inhabitants: her ardor was, however, a little checked, when I asked her, with much show of gravity how Leonard could know of the change which had taken place in his favor; for, as she had banished him, neither her pride nor delicacy could permit us to recal him.

Maria looked a little confused, but replied, with a laugh—Oh! Leonard is not very easily repulsed: he vowed he would appeal to you, and get his father to intercede in his behalf, in despite of all earthly engagements: besides, my dear aunt, do you know I have had my fortune told?

Your fortune told! re-echoed I, in amazement. When?—by whom?

By an old gipsy in the field, she replied. Miss Somerton was walking with me when the Sybil came up; and told me she perceived by my planet, which was predominant that hour, that I should soon be subject to a revolution of ideas and circumstances; that I was under particular engagements to one gentleman, while another was wholly devoted to me. You know dear aunt, I ever ridiculed these sort of things, but I own her words struck me; and as Miss Somerton wished to have her destiny foretold, I waited with her, and at length heard what confirmed all my expectations.

Weak girl! cried I, much distressed; you well know my opinion of such credulity, which almost amounts to a vice; and that among the many weaknesses to which females are addicted, I reckon their eagerness in pursuit of fortune-tellers, from whom they imbibe ideas destructive to their peace, and cherish discontent at the advantages they are already possessed of, to pursue promised pleasures which elude their grasp, and leave them in a worse state than that in which they originally were.

Maria, I know, thought me unjust, but did not presume to urge the subject any further. Stanley has, I know, rather piqued her by neglecting to write;

and, indeed, I almost think it were best to break the match off, while it can be done easily: at all events I shall write to Edward, and know his sentiments, which will in a great measure determine my decision.—The next time I saw Mrs. Chumney, she continued her narrative in the following terms.

From this state of distress and self-reproach, I roused myself to make one more effort; it was dictated by principles of christian rectitude, for I knew well the impiety of suffering an innocent wretch to perish through my guilt. For myself I had no care, but my infant must be preserved; and, determined to be no longer under pecuniary obligations to Henry, nor involve him in trouble on my account, I wrote to the kind governess with whom I had been placed, acquainted her with all past occurrences, and implored her advice, and protection of my babe.

While I waited her answer with heartfelt anguish, I received a visit of an extraordinary nature: it was from my sister's husband. He expressed his concern at my situation, and informed me that the infamous conduct of my sister had occasioned them to be separated: concluded his recital with an offer of regard and assistance, which I might, perhaps, have been duped by, had not the earnest gaze he fixed on me explained views I shudder even to think of. Every kindling hope of ease,



comfort, and peace, vanished before the infamy of the means; and I replied to the unprincipled wretch with all the disdain virtue inspired: yes, madam, degraded, polluted as I was, I felt a glow of innate native virtue, which convinced me I had not erred through depravity of heart. I cannot, will not, repeat to you the insulting language he used: menaces, entreaties, were alternately used in vain; and he left me highly enraged, and I had every thing to fear from his baseness. Fortunately I was rescued from a state of the most dreadful apprehension by the letter of my benevolent protectress, Mrs. Mournwell: she said, she had long and vainly made every enquiry after me, and now, defying invidious calumny, offered me an asylum in her own house: in short, madam, by her means, an investigation of my deceased father's affairs took place, by which I found that the dear, venerable, injured man, had, in compassion for a child he once tenderly loved, bequeathed me five hundred pounds, and his most invaluable blessing, of which an inhuman sister had attempted to deprive me. My kind friend took this cottage for me: I was safely delivered of a daughter; and in the education of her, and embellishing of my little mansion, I find solace and amusement, by which I strive to divert my thoughts from a subject that brings with it the most acute pangs, and fix them upon one which ever forms the mind to fortitude and resignation—Religion.

NO. X.

I ENQUIRED of Mrs. Chumney if she had not since heard or seen from the author of her misfortunes.

She sighed, and said, She knew that he was perfectly happy and unconcerned about her; nor would she, by obtruding herself upon his recollection, run the risk of a second entanglement, or venture to become an object of contempt. No, Madam, said she; reflection has enabled me to sacrifice passion to principle. I have, in some degree, recovered my own self-esteem which will shield me against the shafts of calumny. I own there are moments when a temporary weakness prevails, every tender sentiment revives, and romantic enthusiasm almost counteracts the exertions

of reason; but my efforts are vigorous to repel the undermining foe, and I hope they will ultimately prove successful: yet, though thus far self-acquitted, I know I must only expect peace and security in seclusion. The taunts of the world might irritate wounds but slightly healed—I feel I could not endure opprobrium. The smiles of my dear babe daily add energy to my endeavors to banish every remembrance that may pervert my judgment or mislead my heart.

I acceded to all she said with real satisfaction; and, when I returned home, found Mr. Somerton waiting my arrival. He seemed in high spirits; and informed me, that, having just completed an advantageous negotiation for his daughter, he was come with a design to complete his family arrangements, by soliciting the hand of my niece for Leonard, as he could now better afford him an independent establishment, without seeking any fortune on the side of Maria, of whose merit he declared himself fully sensible.

I assured him, and truly, that I should have considered an alliance with his family both an honor and a pleasure, but for the engagements into which my niece had already entered; but that, as it was not my intention to interfere in the regulation of an affair of the heart, I would leave the decision entirely to the parties most materially concerned.

I then immediately penned a letter to Edward, softening the case as much as I could, and referring it entirely to his arbitration: with this Mr. Somerton appeared perfectly satisfied, and I walked with him to my worthy friends at the farm, to consult on this distressing business: they felt, as well as myself, the deepest concern; but agreed with me, that, as the happiness of the parties themselves was our principal object, it could in no wise be effected by constraint; and we mutually deplored the imbecility so unlooked for in the character of Maria.

My letter was accordingly dispatched to Edward; and in a few days, I received the following answer.

MADAM,

TO reply coolly and methodically to your letter, would be an

exertion of which I feel myself incapable. Insensibility is so often mistaken for philosophy, that I will not pretend to the one, lest I should be suspected of the other. Maria was dear to my heart; her gentleness, her innocence, her loveliness, I could not but behold with esteem and admiration, and the purest affection was cherished in my youthful heart for her—for her only did I breathe a wish, and I had the bliss to believe my love was not unreturned. Our parents (for a parent you have been to Maria) countenanced the attachment, and we were happy. You may, perhaps, expect, that, in the petulance of disappointment, I shall upbraid you for introducing a rival so formidable as Mr. Somerton; but I leave such an accusation to your own reflections; for, however imprudent the action, the event I will endeavor to think beneficial to all, since an affection could be but slightly grounded that could be shaken by the dazzling attractions of fashionable suavity. Not that I would unjustly seek to depreciate the merits of Leonard; from my soul I believe him worthy of her, and possessed of many qualifications which my rank in life has precluded my attaining; and I consider it fortunate, that the discovery of her preference has been made thus timely. Somerton is every way calculated to attract and engage the admiration of women more experienced than my Maria—ah! no longer mine!—That foolish word has set my imagination afloat. All my resentment, all my fortitude, is carried away by the stream of sensibility. 'Tis over!—I resign her calmly. May she be ever happy!—Yet I cannot address her upon this subject:—to you I recommend the task of probing her heart to its further centre. Beware, lest her senses are deluded without the consent of her judgment. Think not that vanity dictates this caution, or that, meanly interested for my own happiness, I should ever be regardless of the welfare of others—you know me better. Still believe me, though a tear may blot the page, your truly affectionate

EDWARD STANLEY.

I shall write to my father by this post, to decline returning home at the vacation.

(To be continued)



## ON CELIBACY AND MARRIAGE.

*Continued from page 149.*

THE Society being met as usual, the bachelor, in the course of conversation, observed,—That marriage has this unquestionable privilege,—that if some wicked wits attack it, great numbers are in duty bound to stand up in its defence.

Yes, my friend, said the last speaker, great numbers have at all times stood up in its defence, both from duty and affection. If it has been the constant jest of half-wits and libertines, it has but shared the same fate with religion itself. No wonder if those free spirits, who have shaken off their reverence for their God, express none for an institution sacred to decency and virtue. Their jeers, however, the friends of virtue and order may well bear, as they know that the wisest and best men of all ages and nations have looked upon the conjugal state as the strongest fence of property, without which succession would be precarious, relation unknown, and society a rope of sand. What is there so desirable in celibacy, that, for its pleasures, so many should renounce a state thus honored with the approbation of mankind? How strong must the allurements be which can tempt men, practically, to say, in direct opposition to the decision of Supreme Wisdom, that it is good for man to be alone?

But, to waive the benefit of every argument from morality and religion, tell me, my friends, is the life of a bachelor exempted from the common inconveniences of humanity? Are the distresses and vexations of life entailed upon the conjugal state only?—A married man may meet with misfortunes in the world but so also may an unmarried. The first will always have a double portion of the sympathy of good men; their benevolent regards will be in proportion to the number of their species who may be affected by such misfortunes. A married man may be injured in his character, and hurt in his dearest interests; so also may a bachelor; but who considers the damage in the same light. Both, indeed, enjoy the protection of the laws: but the first has ever held a more respectable rank in society, and in a just ratio to that rank his damages will always be estimated.

A married man may suffer much by the occasional distress of his family; but he has the comfort to reflect, that those to whom he now discharges the tender offices of friendship and humanity will cheerfully repay them in kind, should the providence of God ever make their case his own.

The bachelor, when reduced to a sick bed, is a pitiable object;—unable to help himself,—with none but mercenary servants, perhaps more mercenary relations, about him, whom shall he trust? If he is poor, neglect, in his greatest need, is the bitter portion of his cup:—if he is rich, yet alas! what avails it? Physicians may prescribe,—medicines may be administered;—but, still, many may be interested in his death,—perhaps not one in his recovery.

A married man may suffer by the folly and caprice of his partner for life; but common prudence, and the experience of his own weakness, will enable him to bear it.—Has the bachelor nothing to fear from his illicit connections with the sex? Or would one rather put up with the fantastic humors of a mercenary, than the occasional slips and inequalities of temper in a woman, who, upon the whole, meant well, and had his interest and happiness really at heart? What do men set a higher value upon than their health, their fortune, and their life? Have these been safer in celibacy than in marriage?—Prejudice would blush to say that they have.

A married man may suffer by the misconduct of his children: but, to counterbalance this, he long enjoyed the pleasing hope of their turning out well. If some of them prove stubborn and refractory, the filial piety of others may alleviate the misfortune. If some of them, by their folly and extravagance bring him into straits and difficulties, the good conduct and success of others may retrieve his affairs, and make the evening of his days easy and agreeable: in any case, the reflection of his having done his duty will be a continual source of satisfaction.—Every parish knows that bachelors may have children; but, conscious of the injury they have done the unfortunate mothers, and the stain they have entailed upon innocent children, must they not be strangers to that pure and unmixed pleasure which a father enjoys upon the birth of a legitimate child?—Unnatural situation!—where

the birth of children is generally looked upon as a misfortune.

If a married man of probity and virtue be in depressed circumstances, every humane heart feels for him,—every liberal hand is ready to support him. A bachelor in the same situation is a kind of detached object, much less regarded: people scarcely make the just allowances for the errors of a conduct which cannot, with decency, support a single solitary being.

If a married man succeeds in business, or is born to affluence, he has the pleasure to reflect, that, by the blessing of God upon his industry or prudence, a whole family are made happy. By training up his children to the love and practice of virtue, and giving them a decent education, he draws upon himself the respect due to a good citizen; with a pleasure not to be expressed, he anticipates futurity, and sees his sons and daughters respectably settled in the world: he sees the circle of his connections enlarged, and still enlarging, and families unborn rejoicing in the character of their ancestor.—When the bachelor gets forward in the world, how poor are his enjoyments!—how narrow and confined his views! He eats and drinks, and is lodged; but he eats the bread of care; he tastes not the cup of joy: and from social happiness his dwelling is far removed.—Uncomfortable life!—miserable situation!—how pitiable!—how dependent!

The President observed, that the bachelor often changed color during my friend's harangue, and that his lips grew remarkably pale when the words,—*mercenary servants, sickness, and death,* were mentioned.

Indeed, my friend, said he, this has something of the appearance of self-condemnation.

To speak the truth, said the bachelor, if our friend had not already got a wife, and a very good one, he deserves to have both, for his zeal in the general cause of the sex. What, alone, I blame in his defence of the conjugal state, is, that he seems indiscriminately to blame celibacy, without at all considering the motives which may induce so many to prefer it. Let him give due credit for these, and I have no quarrel with his doctrine. No man sets a higher value



on the company of the Ladies than I do. What a wretch were man, condemned to the fatigue and drudgery of life, without it! There is a charm in woman that lulls our cares to rest; bids our boisterous passions be still: and which calls forth, even in the soul of the meanest clown, sensations the most tender and agreeable! For woman, the plodding statesman forgets the cares of empire: for woman, the soldier foregoes the pleasure of destroying mankind: for woman, the miser has parted with his gold, and the sop given up his essences and perfumes: for woman, parsons have forgot their text, and rakes become sober: for woman, poets have become fools, and fools have become poets—the time would fail me—: for woman, friends have quarrelled: for woman, the world has been lost!

*(Debate to be continued.)*

### INTERESTING ANECDOTE

OF THE 16TH CENTURY.

THE Czar Ivan, emperor of Russia, who reigned about the middle of the sixteenth century, was no less admired for the unbiassed manner in which he administered justice, than he was beloved for the benevolence of his heart. Though it was impossible for the czar to drive poverty from his dominions, yet the industrious and the unfortunate might always depend upon his care; and he frequently used to conceal his greatness under the garb of misery, for the purpose of discovering objects who were really distressed.

One day he was resolved to try the disposition of his subjects, and see how far they were inclined to afford their fellow-creatures relief: for this purpose he dressed himself in tattered apparel, and sallied out into the street. He walked to a village, a short distance from Moscow, and told a piteous tale at almost every door; but the distress he feigned made no impression upon the inhabitants, and not one of them had humanity enough to give him the least relief. Full of indignation at the barbarity of their conduct, he was just going to quit the place, when he perceived a solitary cottage, more humble in appearance than any of those at which he had begged. To this humble

habitation he bent his footsteps, and knocked with apparent humility at the door, which was immediately opened by the possessor, who, in a tone of kindness, enquired what he wanted, or with whom he wished to speak.

I am almost dying with fatigue, and hunger, said the emperor, and implore you to give me a lodging for the night. Alas! replied the peasant, you will have but poor fare with us; for, my friend, you are come at an unlucky time, as my poor wife is in labor, and I doubt you will not be able to sleep. But come in; for you will at least be sheltered from the weather; and such as I can give you, you shall be welcome to eat.

The delighted czar entered the little dwelling; and the first objects that struck him were two children in a cradle asleep; another, about three years old, was lying upon an old rug near them; and two others, a little older, were upon their knees, praying to the Almighty to preserve their mother, whose complaining voice they heard from an inner room.

Sit down, said the peasant, and I will go and get something for your supper; for I have not any thing in the house. He soon returned with some eggs, brown bread, and honey, of which he begged the emperor would freely eat.—My heart, continued he, is too full to eat at present; for I feel too much for the sufferings of my beloved wife!

Your charity and hospitality, replied the emperor, must bring down blessings upon your head; and I am sure God will reward such goodness! Pray to God, my good friend, that my wife may be preserved to me, said the peasant, for that is all I wish for in this world. And is that all you wish for to make you happy? enquired his august visitor. All I wish for! he rejoined. Ah! judge for yourself: I have five fine children; a wife who loves me tenderly; a father and mother, both in good health; and my labor is sufficient to maintain them all!

But your cottage is too small for comfort, said the czar. I find it large enough; for it contains us all, replied the man. In a short time after this conversation, this contented being's

happiness was made complete; his wife was safe; another son was born, and the delighted parent presented the infant to his royal guest. Look, look! said he, this is the sixth she has bro't me! What a fine child it is! May God preserve him, as he has done my others!

The czar, affected at the domestic scene, took the infant from its fond parent's arms, and looking in its face, declared he saw marks of future greatness depicted in its features. The peasant smiled at the prediction, and soon after the happy family retired to rest. Their beds were merely made of straw; and the ruler of the great Russian empire stretched himself upon a floor of earth. The peasant and his innocent little ones soon fell into a profound sleep; whilst the czar, unaccustomed to such a resting-place, set upright, contemplating the scene around him with surprise!

The peasant, as he was accustomed, awoke at the break of day, when the emperor informed him he must return to Moscow; but begged he might be god-father to the child, who, as was the custom of the country, was to be christened in the course of the day. I will be with you, said the emperor, in the space of a few hours. But promise me to wait; and, during my absence, I will mention the treatment I have received to a benevolent, kind-hearted man, who, I am sure, will be your friend. The peasant promised and kept his word; but, as his expected guest did not return within the time he named, the christening could not be delayed, when, just as they were settling out for church, the emperor's body guards were seen preceding several elegant equipages, and followed by the emperor himself! The peasant, of course, could not recognise his humble guest in the superb habiliments of the prince, and was petrified with astonishment at observing the splendid retinue draw up before his humble dwelling. The czar stepped out and taking the infant from its father's arms, said, I promised you a godfather this morning, and now I am going to fulfil my word. Yesterday you performed the duties of humanity; to day I am come to fulfil the most delightful duty of a sovereign—that of rewarding virtue. I will not remove you from a situation to which you do so much honor, and the innocence and tranquility which I envy; but



I will bestow on you such things as shall add to your felicity. You shall have numerous flocks, rich pastures, and a house that will enable you to exercise the duties of hospitality!—Your newborn child shall become my ward; for you may remember, that I prophesied he would be fortunate.

The happy father could not express his joy, but tears of gratitude ran down his cheeks, and spoke more favorably than words. The emperor himself was quite affected, and so were all who beheld the pleasing sight. As soon as the christening was over, the child was restored to the arms of its delighted mother, but with orders from the czar, that, as soon as it was old enough to be weaned, it should be nursed under his immediate care; accordingly it was sent to the palace, where it received the advantage of an excellent education, and the emperor's prognostic at his birth was completely fulfilled: for he was, at a proper period, placed at the head of one of the first departments in the empire, which he filled with advantage to society and honor to himself.

#### TAKE CARE OF EVERY THING.

(From the French.)

MY friend, you are scarcely arrived at Paris and you already give yourself up to all the pleasures which the capital presents; whither are you hastening at this early hour? I am going to meet two young men who have shown me the greatest friendship, and who have promised to make me acquainted with every thing curious that Paris contains. My friend, *take care* of your curiosity. They have an infinite acquaintance, and they appear to be on the best terms with the principal persons of the Government; they have promised to patronise me, and to get me—My friend *take care* of patrons, of men of importance and above all, of their promises. They will take me to dine at one of the first taverns.—My friend *take care* of their appetite, and above all of the bill. From that we go to the theatre.—My friend, *take care* of your pockets. On leaving the theatre, they will introduce me in the house of a charming woman, who, from the accounts they have given her of me, desires very much to be acquainted with me, and has al-

ready conceived a particular affection, for me. My friend *take care* of her desires, of her affection, and above all of the experience of your young men. They have assured me that every day there are elegant parties at her house; that they play at billiards, and they wish to teach me the game. My friend, *take care* of your masters, of their instructions, and above all of your purse. They told me that I would meet a man of fortune there, who is at present under some difficulties; he wishes to borrow a sum of money; he is a man of honor, and they have made me promise to do him this service. My friend, *take care* of the goodness of your heart; *take care* of men of fortune under difficulties; and above all of borrowers. But they will give me good securities and a reasonable interest. My friend, *take care* of every thing that they will show you—of every thing they say to you—*take care* of every body—*take care* of every thing—and above all *take care*!

#### ANECDOTE OF A TURKISH MARRIAGE.

A TURK took it into his head to get married: he solicited the hand of the daughter of a friend.—Now, it must be remembered, in Turkey, men marry before they have seen the lady; and for her beauty they must rely on the accounts of that Goddess or rather that Monster,—Fame.

Moreover, the bridegroom had received from Nature an enormous nose, under the shade of which one half of his countenance was protected from the rays of the sun.—The marriage was celebrated, and the lady consigned to his arms; but, instead of a beauty, as his imagination had painted her, he found himself in possession of a woman hideously ugly. Such was his despair, that he informed his bride he could never bear her,

And yet, answered the lady, it might not prove a difficult task.

How so? replied the husband.

Why, rejoined she, by the same necessary conduct which has enabled you to bear your nose in the middle of your face!

#### HINT TO MOTHERS

*Who do not Nurse their own Offspring.*

THE following fact is as well attested as it is singular.—Some country girls belonging to a village of the Spanish Cerdagne, situated upon the highest of the Pyrenean mountains, saw, as they were gathering wild spinage, a flock of Izarns, a species of Chamois goats, followed by their kids: they tried to catch one of the latter, and succeeded. The rest of the flock had fled; but, scarce had the poor captive bleated, when an Izarn was seen listening at a distance. This was the dam, whom the girl, that was possessed of the kid, tried by its means to draw nearer, and to catch. Climbing a craggy rock with her prey, she shows it to the dam, who at the cries of the young Izarn begins to approach, trembling; and, after retiring and returning several times, with repeated bleatings on both sides, at last yields to Nature, comes to her kid, and suffers herself, without resistance, to be tied by the female peasant. Forgetting her savageness, she allowed herself to be conducted wherever the villager pleased. But where is the wonder? The Izarn was a mother,—not a mere nurse.—*Era mare y no nourrice la Izarda.*

*For the Weekly Visitor.*

#### A REBUS.

TAKE one of the muses, of whom there are Nine.  
The passion she governs—some call it divine.  
A word, which grammarians have term'd preposition.  
The wind which our poets so often petition.  
A conjunction, which couples, place next in your train.  
With that, which poor culprits oft cry for in vain.  
A word, the most used by men in distress.  
A letter, four distant from alphabet S.  
A term, which expresses *desere'd* compensation.  
The letter, most frequently us'd in our nation.

When these you have found, their initials combine,  
With the letters nam'd singly, each one for a line.  
A TREASURE OF TREASURES will rise to your view,  
More brilliant than diamonds, more rich than Peru!  
For which, I would sail round this globe to obtain—  
Encounter all danger, and suffer all pain.  
Which, rather than lose, I'd surrender my LIFE  
To gallows, or gibbet, or guillotine's knife!

R. H.

Newark, (N. J.) Jan. 30, 1804.

[A solution is requested]



## The Visitor.

SATURDAY, February 18, 1804.

The present week finishes our plan of making good the deficit occasioned by the suspension during the prevalence of the late epidemic. Ten weeks were lost, and for the last ten weeks we have issued two numbers per week, of course the second volume will finish in two years from the commencement of the first.

### LIST OF DEATHS IN N. YORK.

The city clerk reports the deaths of 28 persons during the week ending on Saturday last.

Of CONSUMPTION 8—fits 6—old age 1—bilious cholic 1—pleurisy 2—scarlet fever 1—small-pox 1—sudden 1—sprue 1—dropsy in the head 1—inflammation of the blood 1—inflammation of the head 1—measles 1—scurvy 1—died in the street 1.

Of the above 16 were adults and 12 children.

A person who had been convicted of an offence for which he was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment at hard labor in the New-York state-prison, broke gaol about six years since, and effected his escape.—His friends were respectable; and, in the interim between that time and the present, frequently applied to the Governor for a remission of his punishment. Their solicitations were unattended to, on the ground that the culprit was not then undergoing the sentence of the law. Seeing no prospect of obtaining a pardon whilst at liberty, he formed the resolution of returning to the state-prison; and accordingly a few days ago he voluntarily surrendered himself to the keeper.

[Merc. Ad.]

### LADIES' SOCIETY.

We have frequently had occasion to notice a Society of Ladies in this city, established for the relief of Widows with small children; and have now the pleasure of announcing an additional asso-

siation calculated to extend its usefulness.

The charity schools of this city, only admit children who have already acquired the early rudiments of education: thirty six young ladies, who reckon in their number some of the most brilliant and most lovely of our belles, have volunteered their services, to give the children under patronage of the Widow's Society, this preparatory instruction. They are to attend the school in turn, two each week; the time of attendance, two hours every morning; and the number of children they commence with, 18. The whole to be superintended by Mrs. Isabella Graham, and Mrs. Hoffman, senior, two ladies who have distinguished themselves by the benevolent zeal they have displayed at the head of the Widow's Society.

These arrangements were made at a general meeting on Saturday morning last, when a handsome and appropriate address was delivered to the fair associates by Mrs. Graham. On Monday two of the young ladies entered on their new duties.

We feel pride and pleasure in announcing an institution so honorable to the characters of our females; one which proves that, while shining in the brilliant circles of fashion, surrounded by the amusements of a gay and dissipated metropolis, their hearts remain unvitiated, true to those generous emotions which form the most amiable characteristics of their sex. (Chron.

### LONDON FASHIONS,

FOR DECEMBER.

*Walking dress*, a short round dress of white muslin with a rifle dress of dark green velvet. A rifle hat to correspond with the dress.

*Full dress*—A dress and petticoat of white crape; the bottom of the dress sloped very high before, and bound all round with white ribbon. A full trimming of white lace sewed to the edge of the ribbon. The bosom trimmed with broad lace drawn to form a tucker; the sleeves very short, trimmed with lace. The hair dressed in the most fashionable manner.

*Head dresses*—A straw hat turned up in front, lined with colored velvet, and tied under the chin with a ribbon of the same color. A morning cap of fine sprigged muslin, with a puffing of lace all round the front: white strings. A cap of white muslin with a full border of white lace, ornamented with a wreath of flowers. A cap of muslin and lace, with a bunch of roses in front. A Mameluke turban of scarlet and white velvet. A hat of black velvet turned all round and trimmed with bows of ribbon. A close bonnet of black velvet and pink silk, a bow of black ribbon on the top.

*General remarks*—The dresses very short waisted and very low in the back; and in almost every part of them there is lace. In full dress, crape is much worn. Ostrich feathers of all colors are universal. Pelices and spencers of velvet and cloth much worn. The most favorite colors—dark green, sky blue, and black. The military fronts are generally adopted. For undress, silver, bear muffs and tippets are worn; for dress, swansdown.

*Extract of a letter from Thomas Cooper, Esq. of Northumberland, to James Woodhouse professor of Chymistry in the University of Pennsylvania, dated Feb. 6.*

DEAR SIR,

Your old friend Dr. Priestly, died this morning without pain, at 11 o'clock. He would have been 71 had he lived to the 24th of next month. He continued composed, cheerful and good tempered to the end. For some days he had been certain of his approaching fate.

The late inundation at Madeira, has excited various conjectures as to the cause of it, but by late information from the island it is ascribed to an improvement the governor attempted to make in the rear of the city—The ground surrounding it being very much broken and interfect by vallies, he concluded to fill them up and for that purpose ordered dams to be thrown across to retain the earth which descended from the hills—The consequence was these dams stopped great quantities of water, the weight of which broke the first dam, when the water rushed through the



other with irresistible force, sweeping every thing into the sea within its direction—Two hundred houses, supposed one with another not to be less than fifty feet front and nearly contiguous were carried into the ocean, together with every inhabitant in them, so that not a vestige was to be seen after the ruins, either of the buildings or the people. A church which had stood the storms of 300 years, was carried off in an instant, and what was very singular the bell-man was ringing at the time in the steeple which remained without injury, though the Church was raised to its foundation, of which he was wholly ignorant till he came down from his exalted station.

About ten thousand pipes of wine were carried off or buried so completely with the rubbish that none could be found. An English family of sixteen were lost in one house and not one of them ever heard of.—The number of lives this sorrowful disaster cost the island was not ascertained, but supposed from one to two thousand. Corpses were dug up daily; and it was common to observe ladies of the first character walking the streets barefoot, in consequence of solemn vows they made to do so for a limited time, if their lives were spared, in token of humiliation. The gentleman who gives the above information, says he found the shore rocky, where he transacted business in houses and ware-houses when he was last at Madeira.

THEATRICAL REGISTER.

FRIDAY, FEB. 10.

Poor Gentleman, (Colman, the younger) and Tale of Terror, (H. Siddons.)

Owing to the sudden illness of Mr. Martin, the performances intended for the above night were unavoidably postponed to MONDAY.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15.

John Bull, (Colman, the younger) and Tale of Terror, (H. Siddons.)



Married,

On Thursday evening, last week, capt, Robert M. Steele, to Miss Isabella White, both of this city.

Same evening, the rev. John F. Jackson, to Mrs. Hannah Benton, both of Harlaem.

On Friday, last week, Mr. John Hutchinson, to Mrs. Sketchley.

On Saturday evening last, Mr. John D. Stout, to Miss Jane Disney, both of this city.

Two hearts united, are the same,  
And raise one equal, mutual, flame.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. William Scott, to Miss Hannah Greene, both of this city.



Died,

On the 9th inst. Miss Eliza Glover, daughter of the late Mr. John G. Glover, of this city.

On Tuesday morning, Mrs. Elizabeth Vanderbilt, aged 71 years.

On Wednesday, suddenly, Mr. Andrew Morison, a native of Scotland, aged about 25 years.

At Philadelphia, on Sunday night, after a short illness, Mr. Cropley Rose, merchant, of that city, in the 55th year of his age.

At Mount Holly, (N. J.) on the 13th inst. Dr. Stacey Budd, aged 64.

At Savannah, on the evening of the 19th ult. Doctor Horace Senter, of Newport, (R. I.) son of the late Dr. Isaac Senter, of that place.

On Friday, the 3d inst. Mr. William Crookes, keeper of the state prison, near Trenton, (N. J.) aged 72 years. The sorrow expressed by the prisoners at his decease, is his best Eulogium.

JUST PUBLISHED,

By Ming and Young, and to be had of Gaine and Ten Eyck, 148, Pearl-Street, and of most other Book-sellers in this city,

GAINES  
NEW-YORK POCKET ALMANAC,  
Containing in addition to its usual information,  
A LIST

Of the Military Officers of the city and county of New-York, with their grades in the respective Regiments.  
Price 25 cents.

JAMES THORBURN,

No. 26, Maiden-Lane, corner of Green-Street,

Returns his thanks to his friends and the public, for the liberal encouragement he has received, and hopes to merit a continuance of their favors. He has received per the ships Juno and Diligence, from Amsterdam, a large assortment of FANCY BASKETS, &c. viz.

Clothes baskets of different sizes—Handsome Toilet baskets—Wine-glass baskets, round and oval—Large and small Trunk baskets—Handsome Market do.—Ladies fine knitting do. of different sizes—handsome Children's do. different patterns—handsome Bread do.—do. Counter do.—do. Tumbler do. different sizes—do. Knife do. &c. &c. East India, Dunstable, and Holland Table Mats.

Together with a large assortment of Tubs, Pails, Coolers, &c. also common Baskets, different kinds.

FANCY CHAIRS,

Made as usual, in the neatest stile of elegance, by FRANCIS TILLOU, No. 22, Stone-street.

Wanted,  
BOARDING FOR TWO LADIES,  
with two unfurnished Rooms: or,  
A SMALL HOUSE,  
in the neighborhood of the Park.  
Apply at this office.

Theatre.

On Monday evening, February 20,  
WILL BE PRESENTED,  
A Comedy, (never performed)  
called,

CONCEIT CAN CURE,  
CONCEIT CAN KILL.

To which will be added,  
A Musical Piece, called,  
The Wags of Windsor.





## FOR THE VISITOR.

*Lines on the death of JOSEPH HOPKINS,  
lately a Merchant of this City.*

**W**IDE o'er the land, the driving tempest sweeps,  
And spoil'd, and cheerless, each lov'd scene  
appears;  
The sadden'd landscape o'er its ruin weeps,  
And shrubs and plants and flow'rs are drench'd in  
tears.

For now they're doom'd to brave the wint'ry storms,  
The tenant oak, whose kind, paternal shade  
Hath long protected their defenceless forms,  
Low on the earth a mould'ring trunk is laid.

Thus have I seen in youth and beauty dress'd,  
A widow'd mother o'er her children bend;  
And dry their tears, and lull their woes to rest,  
While hidden sorrows her sad bosom rend.

Thus have I seen, and when I saw, I felt,  
A heart-born tear distil from beauty's eye;  
While o'er her grief, afflicted mem'ry dwelt,  
And sadly prov'd the GOOD and GREAT must die.

For HOPKINS died; the good and therefore great,  
Great in his life, still greater at its close;  
His hopes all cent'ring in a happier state,  
His wishes here, for he had much to lose.

A WIFE—endow'd with ev'ry charm of mind,  
Endear'd by ev'ry tie that binds the heart;  
Mild as religion, gentle, chaste, and kind,  
Good without effort, modest without art.

A lovely offspring—weeping round his bed,  
While he essays to calm their artless tears;  
Guiltless as truth, by truth and virtue led,  
A smiling promise of maturer years.

From such dear friends, how painful 'tis to part!  
Nature's last effort! bitt' rest pang of death!  
Husband and Father, lab'ring at his heart,  
A respite plead, and lengthen'd out his breath.

Calm was his soul, while struggling mem'ry cried,  
"When I am mansion'd in my narrow tomb,  
What fate these mourning cherubs shall betide?"  
The veil was rent;—he read their happy doom.

Bright peace returns, the mighty conflict's o'er,  
Low in the earth his mould'ring corpse is laid;  
Nor foes nor weeping friends shall wake him more,  
Nor view the ravages the worm hath made.

Yet cease, Fair Mourner! he hath left a name,  
Lasting as mem'ry, and as virtue fair;  
Convulsive Envy hides her head in shame,  
While Truth records his virtues as they were:

"A Husband,—faithful, provident, and kind,  
"Sway'd by no motive, save his partner's ease;  
"Thankful it was his lot such worth to find,  
"And thankful he had pow'r such worth to please:

"Her kindness did his thoughtful cares beguile,  
"Her breast, his cab'net; there his fears resign'd;  
"His best reward was her approving smile,  
"And his best wealth, the riches of her mind.

"A Father,—just, affectionate, and mild,  
"Blest in his prospects, in his duty firm;  
"No partial views mislead a fav'rite child,  
"No harsh severities it's spirit arm.

"A Friend,—unchang'd thro' ev'ry changing scene,  
"Unsway'd by fortune's false, seductive charm;  
"Prudent, yet gen'rous—serious, yet serene,  
"Frank without harshness, without passion, warm.

"A Man,—unmov'd by tenderness or fear,  
"From strong temptations rising still the same;  
"In all professions, saving, yet sincere,  
"Honest from principle, but ne'er for shame,

"Whose warm benevolence oft cheer'd the poor,  
"Full many a mile his charities were spread;  
"Ne'er did he spurn the needy from his door,  
"Nor e'er denied the shelterless a shed.

"Here if, indignant at this partial lay,  
"Some doubting stranger ask for vices too  
"Go, ask his servants, they with pride shall say,  
"He had no vices, e'en his faults were few.

Thus HOPKINS liv'd;—and tho' like him to live,  
To me my slender fortune doth deny,  
Still what I can to needy worth I'll give,  
And learn from his example, how to die.

ALANSON.

*Messrs. Ming & Young,  
The above lines are not less a  
tribute of justice than of friendship. If  
such characters were more frequently ex-  
hibited to the world, might we not hope  
that beneficence, fidelity, and unshaken  
integrity, would become more fashionable  
virtues? By giving them a place in your  
Miscellany, you will gratify several of  
your readers.* A.

## EPIGRAM.

**C**ITIZEN Plum had a quarrelsome wife;  
Music was ever the cause of their strife.  
Madam, one day, was abusing her Dear—  
The topic, as usual, his want of an ear!  
—"Hold thy tongue!" replies Plum; for Heav'n's  
sake, do:  
"I prithee consider, that I have got two?"

## WHAITES &amp; CHARTERS,

## PATENT PIANO FORTE MAKERS,

No. 19, Barclay-Street, opposite St. Peter's Church,  
Have for sale elegant additional-key'd patent Piano  
Fortes of superior quality in tone and workmanship to  
any that have been imported, as they are made after  
the latest improvement, with upright Dampers, and  
the Back solid. They will not require tuning so often  
as instruments in general do.

N. B. Second-hand Piano Fortes taken in exchange.  
Instruments lent on hire, tuned and repaired with  
neatness and accuracy.

## W. S. TURNER,

SURGEON DENTIST, FROM LONDON.

Respectfully acquaints the ladies and gentlemen of  
this city, that he practises in all the various branches  
of his profession. He fits Artificial Teeth with such  
uncommon nicety as to answer all the useful purposes of  
nature, and of so neat an appearance, that it is impos-  
sible to discern them from real ones. His method of  
cleaning the teeth is allowed to add every possible ele-  
gance to the finest set, without giving the least pain or  
incurring the slightest injury to the enamel. In the  
most raging tooth-ache he can truly say, that his Tinc-  
ture has very seldom failed in removing the torture;  
but if the decay is beyond the power of remedy, his at-  
tention is extricated the tooth, and indeed of decayed  
teeth in general, (from considerable study and practice)  
is attended with infinite ease and safety.

Mr. TURNER will wait on any lady or gentleman  
at their respective houses, or he may be consulted at  
No. 12, Dey-Street—where may be had, with direc-  
tions, his Antiscorbutic TOOTH-POWDER, a most  
innocent preparation of his own, from Chymical and  
Medical experience. It has been in great esteem the  
last ten years, and is considered as pleasant in its ap-  
plication, as it is excellent in its effect; it renders  
the teeth smooth and white, braces the gums, makes  
them healthy, red and firm, prevents decay, tooth-  
ache, that accumulation of tartar, (so destructive to  
the teeth and gums) and imparts to the breath a most  
delectable sweetness.

Sold by appointment of the proprietor, at G. & R.  
Waite's Patent Medicine Warehouse and Bookstore,  
No. 64, Maiden-Lane.

## UNFORTUNATE LOTTERY-OFFICE.

No. 246 WATER STREET.

THE Subscriber respectfully informs his friends and  
the public in general, that he has for sale,  
TICKETS in the "Lottery for the Encouragement of  
Literature, No. 11," either whole, or in halves,  
quarters, or eighths.—Schemes as follows:

1 Prize of	25,000	60	200
1	10,000	120	100
1	5,000	200	50
5	2,000	500	20
7	1,000	900	10
20	500		

9,913 Prizes—23,087 Blanks—Less than 2½ blanks  
to a prize—Subject to a deduction of 15 per cent.

The above Lottery will commence drawing in the city  
of N. York, on the first Tuesday in April, 1804.

N. B. Tickets examined and registered as usual—Cash  
paid for prizes as soon as drawn—Orders for tick-  
ets or shares; (post paid) carefully attended to.  
Tickets now selling for 6½ dollars, and by reason of  
the great demand will soon rise.

JOHN TIEBOUT.

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